

News

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Remembering the victims of the Holocaust

Norwich South MP Simon Wright has signed a book of commitment in the House of Commons, pledging his support for Holocaust Memorial Day and honouring people who died during the Holocaust.

Mr Wright last year visited Auschwitz-Birkenau together with the Holocaust Educational Trust and students from City Academy Norwich, Hewett School, Norwich High School for Girls, Wymondham College and Dereham Sixth Form College.

He said: "We must never forget the victims of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides across the world. Holocaust Memorial Day is an important opportunity to remember them. I encourage everyone to mark the day, and to reflect on what they can do to fight against prejudice and intolerance."

January 27 will mark the 68th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Nazi concentration and extermination camp.

In the weeks running up to the day, the Holocaust Educational Trust placed a book in the House of Commons, giving MPs the chance to honour those who were persecuted and killed during the Holocaust and encouraging constituents to work together to continue combatting prejudice and racism.

Karen Pollock, chief executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust, said: "It is vitally important that we both remember and learn from the appalling events of the Holocaust - as well as ensuring that we continue to challenge all forms of hatred and bigotry."

Chief executive is appointed

Norwich-based SaxonAir has appointed Alex Durand, *pictured*, as chief executive.

The 43-year-old has more than 20 years of experience in the business aviation sector.

SaxonAir, whose clients include blue-chip companies, individual businessmen and women, sports teams, musicians, and offshore energy firms, has experienced a 12.5pc increase in charter flights flown and a 65pc increase in handled flights at Norwich Airport since moving into its new multi-million-pound facility in May 2011.



The finest fake fur



Fur is on the fashion radar again and with it comes a whole army of faux fur offerings including a new breed that originates from Norwich. **EMMA HARROWING** finds out more.

Fur has to be one of the most controversial fashion statements of all time. These days, while some vintage shops have the odd piece of fox or mink, the majority of 'fur' coats tend to be of the faux variety. Not that you can always tell, as like faux leather, faux fur sometimes looks and feels like the real thing. The only emotion lacking is the guilt.

Or so the fashion industry would have you believe.

The debate on whether or not faux fur is actually fake or if the fashion industry is still increasingly using real fur under the guise that it is 'ethically sourced' rather than being a by-product of animal cruelty is still raging on.

According to recent reports, more than 400 designers now use real fur. It has become a lucrative business which is now worth around £11bn. And with some Far East companies reportedly using cheap off-cuts or the pelts of rabbits, cheap fur can find its way onto the High Street, meaning that the 'faux' fur collar on your coat could actually be real.

How often real fur is passed off as fake is not known because there are currently no requirements to label real or vintage fur in Britain. So it comes back to the old chestnut of knowing where your clothes and the materials to make them have been made and sourced.

Luckily, Norfolk has an increasing number of fashion designers and makers, so you can see for yourself where your clothes and accessories come from. New to the Norfolk design set is The House of Handmade, set up by 30-year-old part-time art teacher Emma Bosanko, in September. The company specialises in vintage inspired and original accessories, including faux fur stoles based on 1900 to 1930s designs.

"I've always liked the look of fur in vintage fashion, but hated the ethics behind the industry," says Emma. "I don't see the need to use fur when there are premium quality synthetic alternatives available. So I started The House of Handmade to design and make faux fur accessories based on vintage designs which are more accessible and wearable for people who don't want to buy generic goods

Credits

Photographer: Sean Parnell, So True Photography.

Models: Jude Wright and Amber Woodcock.

Hair: Amy Taylor aka Flamingo Amy.

Jewellery designed by Lucy Crick eclecticeccentricity. bigcartel.com

Jude wears: Mink stole from the House of Handmade and necklace worn as head dress from Eclectic Eccentricity.



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on your doorstep



Jude wears: Soft brown stole from House of Handmade and earrings from Eclectic Eccentricity.



Amber wears: Victorian inspired grey stole from House of Handmade and necklace worn as head dress from Eclectic Eccentricity.

from high street chains. All of my faux fur fabric is sourced online and sent to me by the metre to be cut into patterns and later sewn together.

"The fur is made up from thousands of synthetic strands which are sewn onto a fabric mesh. The quality of the fur is fantastic and looks very realistic.

"However, if you feel it, the material doesn't have the same texture and weight as real fur, which makes it quite light and easy to wear."

Emma designs the patterns for her stoles working from old film stills and photographs. She can also produce custom designs by request. Her designs include faux mink stoles, some even have 'heads' and 'feet' reminiscent of the fur stoles from the 1900s.

"These provide an unusual twist in a saturated market," says Emma. "The stoles are made using traditional sewing and making techniques such as cross stitch embroidery to create a nostalgic style.

"At the moment I have the autumn and winter collection and I'm hoping to develop accessories using vintage inspired cotton prints and cross stitch embroidery for spring and summer. I am also planning to expand the faux fur collection to include cuffs, headbands and bridal accessories next year."

→ For more information on the faux fur stoles available from The House of Handmade visit www.thehouseofhandmade.com



Jude wears a soft brown stole from a selection at the House of Handmade.

Fashion fix



→ Don't let the January blues get you down. Why not celebrate Burn's Night next Friday by hosting your very own supper and party with your friends. Of course you need to dress for the occasion so why not set a tartan theme? These trousers from River Island are perfect for Burn's Night style.

→ As reported on the fashion pages in your Evening News a week or so ago, metallics are hot for spring and summer this year. Hobbs, pictured, is the latest high street label to include a touch of shimmer in its new collection. Hobbs is available from Jarrold, John Lewis and House of Fraser in Norwich.



→ Fans of ITV drama Mr Selfridge will recognise these elegant red gloves from the first show. Amazingly this glove, made by Dents, was actually on sale in the early days of Selfridges.

Now, according to the glove manufacturer, demand for the four buttoned detail glove has gone through the roof because of increased interest in Edwardian and 1920s style thanks to programmes such as Mr Selfridge and Downton Abbey. Dents gloves are available from Jarrold and House of Fraser.

Volunteers provide aid assistance

More than 150 volunteers helped St John Ambulance in the east of England over the Christmas and New Year period.

The volunteers provided first aid assistance and healthcare professionals in various places, including Norwich, Newmarket, Ipswich and Cambridge, releasing ambulances for emergency calls and reducing pressure on local A&E departments.

Norwich's SOS Bus, of which St John Ambulance is one of four participating organisations, reported treating 11 patients over the Christmas and New Year period.

While on New Year's Day races and fun runs were covered by volunteer teams in Wymondham and Cromer.

Bruce Leeke, regional director for St John Ambulance in the east of England, said: "2012 was a very busy year for the region's volunteers and once again our highly trained first aiders stepped up to the mark as a reassuring presence in town centres and at events during the festive period, willingly giving up their own celebrations to assist the public.

"Our calculations of the benefits of the two Cambridgeshire Care Tent projects alone indicate that the potential saving to the taxpayer in terms of costs for ambulance call-outs and A&E treatment was as high as £35,000. That's equivalent to the basic salary for a paramedic for one year."

→ St John Ambulance is now seeking new volunteers for 2013. For more details, call 08457 10 49 50 or go to www.sja.org.uk/volunteer

Prize fund for entrepreneurs

A Norwich-based specialist financial advisory firm is marking its new year rebranding with a £1,500 prize fund to help would-be entrepreneurs get their business ventures off the ground.

Nurture Financial Planning – previously part of the Premier Financial Group – has set up the prize fund with City College Norwich's Peter Jones Enterprise Academy at the Start-Up lounge, which works to support entrepreneurs across Norfolk.

Ben Bidwell, head of the Peter Jones Enterprise Academy, said the funding would support a winning business bid from a student to run their own enterprise or receive mentoring as part of their studies.

A festival of fashion

→ Norwich Fashion Week from March 7 to 15 is set to be the biggest festival of fashion yet, and it doesn't stop when the lights dim on the catwalks. Organisers of the week have just announced that there will be a Norwich Fashion Wrap Weekend directly following the week on

Saturday, March 16 and Sunday, March 17. The Wrap Weekend includes discounts, special menus and drinks in cafes, bars and restaurants, club nights and the Designers Boutique a 'department store' featuring local designers at The Assembly House on the Sunday. Businesses interested in taking part in the Wrap Weekend should contact Clare Millar at clare@whoopmarketing.com